



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/054,751	10/22/2001	Michael Soemo	2001P20319US	5865

7590 01/06/2004

Siemens Corporation
Intellectual Property Department
186 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, NJ 08830

EXAMINER

RONES, CHARLES

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2175

DATE MAILED: 01/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/054,751

Applicant(s)

SOEMO ET AL.

Examiner

Charles L. Rones

Art Unit

2175

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Request for Reconsideration

The request for reconsideration timely filed on October 27, 2003.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-6, 11-13, 17-19, and 21-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Schloss et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,249,844 ('Schloss').

Schloss discloses:

As to claim 1,

a database partitioned into a first section and a second section, said first section comprising static data and being stored in a static memory device, said second section comprising dynamic data and being stored in a dynamic memory device; See Abstract; 9:46-67; and

a database manager for managing said database; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 2,

wherein said database manager comprises software and wherein said database manager is stored in said static memory device; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 3,

wherein said static memory device comprises a set of units, and further wherein said database manager copies a set of data elements stored in one of said units into said dynamic memory when one or more of said data elements is to be modified; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 4,

wherein said dynamic memory comprises a cache and wherein said set of data elements are copied from said static memory into said cache; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 5,

wherein a plurality of applications has access to said database and further wherein said cache is used to support modifications to the database made by said plurality of applications; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 11,

wherein said second section comprises a third section and a fourth section, said third section comprising non-persistent dynamic data, said fourth section comprising persistent dynamic data, said third and fourth sections being stored in a non-volatile memory device; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 12,

a communication network; an application node coupled to said communication network, said application node having a static memory device and a dynamic memory device; See Abstract; 9:46-67;

a database partitioned into a first section and a second section, said first section comprising static data and being stored in said static memory device, said second section comprising dynamic data and being stored in said dynamic memory device; See Abstract; 9:46-67; and

a database manager disposed in said application node for managing said database; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 13,

wherein said database manager comprises software and wherein said database manager is stored in said static memory device; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 17,

wherein said dynamic memory comprises a cache and wherein said database manager causes a set of data elements to be copied from said static memory into said cache when at least one of said set of data elements require modification; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 18,

wherein a plurality of applications may access said database and further wherein said cache supports modifications made to said database by said plurality of applications; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 19,

wherein said database comprises a catalog that identifies a set of data fields and further wherein said catalog specifies that at least some of said data fields contain static data elements and specifies that at least some of said data fields contain dynamic data elements; See Abstract; 7:40-67; 8:1-35; 9:46-67.

As to claim 21,

a workstation coupled to said communication network, said workstation being adapted to execute a database interface software program, wherein said database interface software program enables user-access to said database; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 22,

wherein said communications network comprises a first communications network, and wherein said first communications network is connected to a external second communications network wherein said database, said database manager, and said memory device may be remotely communicated with over said external second communications network; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 23,

storing a set of static data elements in a static memory device; See Abstract; 9:46-67;

and, storing a set of dynamic data elements in a dynamic memory device, wherein said database comprises said static data elements and said dynamic data elements; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 24,

creating a catalog for said database, said catalog specifying a plurality of data fields and said catalog further specifying that at least some of said data fields are stored in said static memory device and that at least some of said data fields are stored in said dynamic memory device; See Abstract; 7:40-67; 8:1-35; 9:46-67.

As to claim 25,

copying a content of one of said storage units to a dynamic memory device,
wherein said content comprises said data element; See Abstract; 9:46-67;

editing said data element while said data element is stored in said dynamic
memory; See Abstract; 9:46-67;

erasing (deleting) said one of said storage units; See Abstract; 9:46-67;

and, writing said content, including said data element that has been edited, into
said one of said storage units; See Abstract; 8:55-67; 9:46-67.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all
obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 7-10, 14-16, 20, and 26-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being
unpatentable over Schloss et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,249,844 ('Schloss').

As to claim 7,

Schloss discloses the claimed invention except for storing Boolean data
elements. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time

Art Unit: 2175

the invention was made to store Boolean data elements since it was known in the art that some data can be Boolean just as it could any other type of data to be stored in a database, Boolean is another type of data commonly used in computing to compare one value to another and storing the Boolean operator would allow recalling the operator from a database like other data that is recalled from a database.

The combined invention of Schloss discloses:

a database generation tool adapted to generate a database file containing a catalog that defines a set of data fields for storing a set of data elements, said set of data fields including one or more data fields for collectively storing a set of Boolean data elements deemed to be disclosed wherein a database comprises of fields and any data can be stored in the database; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 8,

Schloss discloses the claimed invention except for using a contiguous portion of memory. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a contiguous portion of memory since it was known in the art that storing data close together would reduce operation time and return the data faster than storing the data in several different locations and having to then access those different locations separately to recall the data.

The combined invention of Schloss discloses:

wherein said second section comprises a dynamic data file that occupies a contiguous portion of said dynamic memory; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 9,

a file system adapted to access said dynamic data contained in said dynamic data file using one or more memory pointers wherein the database is indexed deemed to include pointers; See Abstract; 7:40-67; 8:1-35; 9:46-67.

As to claim 10,

wherein said file system is integrated with said database manager; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 14,

wherein said second section comprises at least one dynamic data file that occupies a contiguous portion of said dynamic memory; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 15,

a file system adapted to access said dynamic data contained in said dynamic data file using said one or more memory pointers; See Abstract; 7:40-67; 8:1-35; 9:46-67.

As to claim 16,

wherein said file system is integrated with said database manager; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 20,

a database generation tool for generating a database file containing a catalog, wherein said catalog defines one or more data fields for collectively storing a plurality of Boolean elements.

As to claim 26,

receiving a data input file, said data input file defining a first set of data fields to be included in said database and said data input file including a set of data elements to be included in said database; See Abstract; 9:46-67;

identifying a second set of data fields in said data input file that are designated to contain a Boolean element, said second set of data fields being a subset of said first set of data fields;

defining one or more new data fields for collectively storing said Boolean elements wherein the database is deemed to be able to store any kind of data including Boolean elements;

modifying said first set of data fields to eliminate said second set of data fields; and; See Abstract; 9:46-67;

generating a catalog that defines an arrangement of said first set of data fields, wherein said arrangement includes said one or more new data fields for collectively storing said Boolean elements; See Abstract; 7:40-67; 8:1-35; 9:46-67.

As to claim 27,

read a catalog to determine where a set of static data shall be stored in a static memory device; See Abstract; 7:40-67; 8:1-35; 9:46-67;

store said static data in said static memory device according to said catalog; read said catalog to determine where a set of dynamic data shall be stored in a dynamic memory device; See Abstract; 7:40-67; 8:1-35; 9:46-67; and

store said dynamic data in said dynamic memory device according to said catalog; See Abstract; 7:40-67; 8:1-35; 9:46-67.

As to claim 28,

store said static data as a static data file in said static memory device; See Abstract; 9:46-67; and

store said dynamic data as a dynamic data file in said dynamic memory device; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 29,

access said static data contained in said database cache using a memory pointer; See Abstract; 7:39-67; 9:46-67; and

access said dynamic data contained in said dynamic data file using said memory pointer; See Abstract; 7:39-67; 9:46-67.

As to claim 30,

enable editing of said static data by temporarily copying a content of a storage unit of said static memory device to said dynamic memory device, wherein said content comprises a data element to be edited; See Abstract; 9:46-67;

edit said data element while said data element is stored in dynamic memory;
erase said storage unit of said static memory device; See Abstract; 9:46-67; and,

copy said content including said data element that has been edited to said storage unit of said static memory wherein the copy is deemed to be a copy in cache which is temporarily storing the copy for editing; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 31,

communicate over an external communications network connected to the computer whereby the computer program product may be interfaced with remotely over said external communications network; See Abstract; 9:46-67.

As to claim 32,

receive a data input file that defines a first set of data fields to be included in a database, said data input file including a plurality of data elements to be included in a database; See Abstract; 9:46-67;

use said data input file to identify a second set of data fields that are each designated in said data input file for storing a Boolean element, said second set of data fields being a subset of said first set of data fields; See Abstract; 7:40-67; 8:1-35; 9:46-67;

modify said first set of data fields to eliminate (delete) said second set of data fields; See Abstract; 7:40-67; 8:1-35; 9:46-67; and,

create a catalog for said database, said catalog defining an arrangement of said first set of data fields, wherein said arrangement includes said one or more new data fields for collectively storing said Boolean elements; See Abstract; 7:40-67; 8:1-35; 9:46-67.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles L. Rones whose telephone number is 703-306-3030. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8am-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici can be reached on 703-305-3830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3800.



Charles L. Rones
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2175

December 30, 2003